

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Part 97 of the)	WT Docket No. 04-140
Commission's Rules Governing the)	
Amateur Radio Service)	

COMMENTS ON NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

To The Commission:

In (FCC 04-79, ¶ 93) you "request comment regarding whether there are other unnecessary rules applicable to the amateur service qualifying examination system that we should eliminate, and whether there are other rules we should amend to conform with actual practices in the examination system." I have one that I wanted to suggest, but I have been unable to find where it is spelled out in the rules, so I shall simply relate my experience.

I have no particular interest in being a volunteer examiner (VE) at this time, nor am I much of a joiner of local clubs. However, I have visited club meetings at times, and once some years ago after I'd introduced myself with my call letters, the club members noting they were for an extra class license, asked me if I were interested in being a VE. I wasn't.

They explained that they had examinations pretty well covered during the year, but at the yearly hamfest in town, they were very busy with examinations and needed all the help they could get. So I decided to help them out, and I got certified as a VE in order to help administer tests during the yearly hamfest.

I remember in the process of being certified as a VE, reading that if I failed to actively participate in giving examinations for so many years after being certified, I would lose my certification and could never be certified again. That is the rule I have a question about, though I can't find where it is spelled out. It didn't seem to be a problem at the time as I had intended to help with the yearly exams at the hamfests.

Then they decided to stop holding the hamfests in our town. The other examiners tried contacting me to get me involved in giving examinations, but I wasn't interested in the routine ones, I had just wanted to help out with the overload at the hamfests which were no longer occurring.

Enough years have passed that I am sure I have lost my certification and can never get certified again, but someday I may want to and then I would have no recourse, so I decided now is the time to mention it in a comment, though I am not sure if this is the channel I should go through as this rule does not seem to be specifically spelled out in Part 97, not that I can find.

Respectfully Submitted,
Earl S. Gosnell III